

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph at page 1, line 20, to read as follows:

-- Our application WO 98/13694 discloses a method of testing for spongiform encephalopathy and other demyelinating conditions in mammals, especially Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), Multiple Sclerosis (MS), or Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD), which comprises assaying antibodies present in the mammal which are antibodies to a species of *Acinetobacter* containing the peptide sequence ISRFWGEV **(SEQ. ID. NO: 8)** e.g. *Acinetobacter calcoaceticus*. As indicated in this prior application, this peptide sequence mimics a similar peptide sequence in mammalian myelin and induces antibodies which cross-react with myelin of the mammal. This prior application discloses a diagnostic test kit for detecting the above-mentioned diseases by the specified method. --